

past 24 years in Crocker, MO as Mayor. Her continued re-election has been a stamp of approval on the outstanding job she has done.

Norma Lea Mihalevich has also demonstrated her commitment to public education by her service on the Crocker R-II Board of Education for the past forty-nine years. In addition, she has served as a member of the Missouri School Boards' Association's Board of Directors for eleven years. Ms. Mihalevich knows that the key to improving public education is public involvement on the local level. She has definitely led by example and in 1985 she was named as Missouri Pioneer in Education by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

It is an honor for me to tell my colleagues about Norma Lea. She is an outstanding individual and example for others. Her service, and commitment to service, is something of which we should all be proud.●

#### SIMPLOT GAMES

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to use this occasion to recognize and commend the premier indoor high school track and field event in the Nation. Found in my very own backyard, the Simplot Games are held annually at Holt Arena on the campus of Idaho State University in Pocatello, ID. For the past twenty-three consecutive years, the Simplot Games have provided an opportunity for thousands of youths to compete with top-ranked athletes from every corner of the United States and Canada in a nurturing and supportive environment. Run almost solely by volunteers, the Games are a source of inspiration and pride for all participants. The J.R. Simplot Company, a sponsor of the Games, should be applauded for its dedication to the athletes, not only financially, but for providing such a stage to showcase so many talented young people from around the nation.

The Simplot Games are held annually during the third weekend of February on the fastest indoor track in the country. It is certain a few national records will be broken every year before a cheering crowd of thousands, not to mention the national television audience. I had the opportunity to attend the games this year and witness firsthand the camaraderie and team spirit these exceptional young adults displayed. It was impossible not to be caught up in the excitement of this unique event.

The Simplot Games are sanctioned by USA Track and Field, and awards are presented to contenders finishing in the top six places of their respective events. The Games are not just about athletics, but also about providing guidance and advice to the young competitors. Many notable athletes of

Olympic and professional fame make a personal commitment to be a positive influence on the participants through their work with the Simplot Games. This year, Olympians included: Al Joyner, Honorary Chairman of the Simplot Games and 1984 Gold Medalist in the triple jump; Dick Fosbury, 1968 Gold Medalist in the high jump and U.S. Olympic Hall of Famer; Paralympian Marlon Shirley, 2000 Gold Medalist in the 100-meter dash; Andre Phillip, 1988 gold medalist in the 400-meter hurdles; and Dan O'Brien, 1996 Gold Medalist in the decathlon and University of Idaho graduate.

In conjunction with the Games, the Adidas Golden Spike Invitational meet was held during the Simplot events. This professional event brought a hefty number of world class athletes to Pocatello to challenge each other for qualifying marks for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games. Through the competition, one hometown favorite was a particular bright spot: Stacy Dragila, 2000 Olympic Gold Medalist in women's pole vaulting, eclipsed her own world record of fifteen feet, five inches, by a full inch and three quarters.

Next year the Simplot Games will be held February 14-16. I encourage all who compete or have sons and daughters that compete in track and field to participate in this world-class event. If you cannot make the competition, or cheer from a seat in the arena, I invite you to watch this exciting and uplifting event unfold from your own living room on television. I am proud that my state of Idaho is the home of this wonderful event and its sponsor, the J.R. Simplot. I am also proud of all the athletes who compete, not only with the other participants but with themselves, to be the best. It is encouraging for all Americans to see how our children are capable of rising above our expectations and accomplish great things.

While I have the focus on Pocatello and Idaho State University, I would like to congratulate the ISU women's basketball team for earning its first berth ever to the NCAA Women's Tournament. The Bengals went undefeated in the Big Sky Conference this year and tied the nation's longest winning streak this season with 21 straight victories. Despite ISU's first round loss to Vanderbilt, the Bengals showed a lot of heart and determination, and I am proud of all they accomplished this year.●

#### SHRM VISIT TO CAPITAL

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I rise today to welcome the members of the Society for Human Resource Management, SHRM, to Washington for their 18th Annual Employment Law and Legislative Conference. Today, close to 300 SHRM members will visit Capitol Hill to share their views on and

experience with issues such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, health care, the Fair Labor Standards Act, pension reform, and Section 127 educational assistance.

The Society for Human Resource Management, SHRM, is a strong voice for the human resource profession. SHRM represents its members on issues affecting the workplace, employment, employers, and employees. It also provides them with invaluable services such as government and media representation, education and information services, conferences and seminars, online services, and publications.

SHRM was founded 52 years ago by a small group of "personnel" officers to help the nation work through its post WW II labor-management challenges and improve the professionalism of the industry. Today, SHRM's membership includes over 155,000 human resource professionals in all fifty states and ranges from small one-person consulting firms to Fortune 500 companies. SHRM's members also represent a wide variety of industries, from the 25 percent who work in manufacturing to the 15 percent who work in the service sector. Other members work in the transportation, utilities, retail, finance, insurance, health, real estate, construction, and technology industries.

I want to commend the members of SHRM for taking time out of their demanding daily lives to come to Washington, D.C. to speak with their Senators and Representatives regarding the issues that affect their profession. As a legislator, I cannot stress enough the importance of legislative conferences through which members of associations like the Society for Human Resource Management come to our nation's capital to participate in the legislative process. Citizen participation is a crucial component of the legislative process because it allows legislators and their staff to hear their constituents explain their experiences as they live and work under our nation's laws. The knowledge that legislators gain through these conversations results in sounder legislation and, ultimately, a stronger democracy. Accordingly, I sincerely thank the members of SHRM for their commitment not only to their profession but to the political process.●

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1005. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled